

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application.

Claims 1-26 are pending.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn and the application be forwarded along to issuance

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-12 and 18-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 20030025728 to Ebbo et al. (hereinafter “Ebbo”). Claims 13-17 and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ebbo in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 20030046364 to Sisco et al (hereinafter “Sisco”). The Applicant has submitted herewith a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 that swears behind the publication date of Ebbo. Therefore, the rejections which assert Ebbo are obviated. Withdrawal of the rejections with respect to Claims 1-12 and 18-23 is respectfully requested.

1 **Conclusion**

2 All of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant
3 requests a Notice of Allowability be issued forthwith. If the Office's next
4 anticipated action is to be anything other than issuance of a Notice of Allowability,
5 Applicant respectfully requests a telephone call for the purpose of scheduling an
6 interview.

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8 Respectfully Submitted,

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